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62.27 Iowa seed co., Des Moines, Iowa.

Novelties & specialties; 1896.

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NOVELTIES and SPECIALTIES

··· FOR 1896. ···

Offered By the IOWA SEED COMPANY,

Des Moines, Iowa.

In preparing your catalogue for 1896 it will pay you well to list the following varieties which have proved to be "takers" with our trade. We solicit your orders at prices named. If a very large quantity is wanted, write us and we will name inside figures if possible. Terms on Vegetable and Flower Seeds June 1, 1896, or one per cent per month discount for cash. Field Seeds net cash. Fifty pounds or more at the 100 pound rate. Of some of these varieties our stock is limited and prices are made subject to stock being unsold. Prices will probably be somewhat higher after the issue of our wholesale catalogue in December. Packet seeds will be put up in unprinted packets unless otherwise requested.

MARKET GARDENERS' BEET.

Introduced by us, and undoubtedly one of the best novelties ever offered, and it receives much praise from our customers each year. Its shape is well shown by the accompanying engraving. It is very symmetrical with small tap root and but few fibrous roots. Unusually small tops. Although on some soils the Egyptian can be marketed a few days before the Market Gardeners', still within a week it will be found larger than the Egyptian, while it continues to grow until late in the fall, attaining a large size, and making a good eating and selling beet for winter. By the first of October they measure six inches in diameter and average four pounds each in weight. One sowing only is necessary to produce early beets for market and main crop for winter use, which is not the case with any other variety. Color deep blood red; fine grained and unsurpassed in quality. Summing it all up, we find it the best beet for early market, and the best beet for winter use. Owing to the small tops, permitting them to be grown close together, and the peculiar shape of the bulb, it is the most profitable beet for the market gardener and for the family garden of any we know of. Our crop is excellent this year and price low. Per lb. 40c, 100 lbs. $30.00. *Electro 75c, or free with orders for 25 pounds or over.*

NEST EGG GOURD.

It is sometimes quite difficult to obtain pure seed of this variety, but we have some seed seed of our own growing which we believe would please you. Per lb. $1.25.

NEW ASTRO CUCUMBER.

A novelty of the highest merit and one which has greatly pleased our market garden customers, some claiming that they made more money from a crop of these grown early in the hotbeds than from any other crop, as they sell quickly at $1.00 per dozen. They do excellently well under glass, yielding a continual daily picking of large perfect shaped fruits eight to twelve inches long, almost solid throughout. Excellent for slicing, solid and crisp. With common outdoor culture in the summer it produces large cucumbers fifteen to eighteen inches in length with very few seeds. Seed will always be expensive, as it produces only eight to twelve pounds per acre, while the White Spine and other common sorts produce 200 to 500 pounds. In packets only, containing twenty seeds each, $4.00 per 100, $30.00 per 1,000 *Electro 80c, or free with orders for 100 packets or more.*

NEW WASHINGTON WAKEFIELD CABBAGE.

For many years the Jersey Wakefield cabbage has been the most prominent early sort with market gardeners, and many attempts have been made to improve on it with heretofore but limited success. In this grand variety, which is well shown by our illustration, we have a most superior strain, well worthy of the name it bears. It is a leader, and **First in Head! First in Market! First in the Hearts of Gardeners!** It is very early, the heads are pyramidal in shape, much larger in size than the Jersey Wakefield and very solid, with few outside leaves. It grows remarkably uniform, the heads being of very even size and shape. Unequaled for either the market or family garden. First offered by us last spring and our customers have been delighted with it. If you want a variety which will prove entirely satisfactory to market gardeners and the retail trade, it will pay you to handle the Washington Wakefield. Per lb. $1.50, 25 lbs. or more @ $1.25.

SHORT STEM DRUMHEAD CABBAGE.

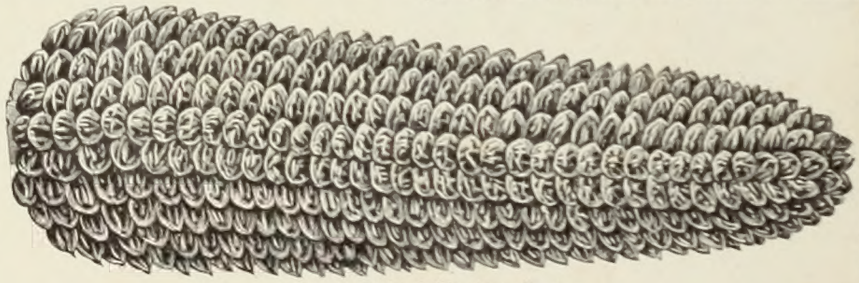
Not new, but well known as the best late variety in many markets. Heads are of large size, regular, even growth, solid and of best keeping qualities. Stem short; a great improvement on the late flat cabbage. Per lb. $1.10, 25 lbs. or more @ $1.00. *A nice electro for $1.00, or free with orders for ten lbs. or more.*

EARLY SUNRISE SWEET CORN.

This splendid new variety which we introduced last year, originated with a market gardener in the western part of the state, and for eight years he has been selecting it to an ideal size and shape, and also the earliest maturing. In this way he has finally obtained this variety, which is distinct from all others. Ears are about six inches long and well filled out at the end, the husk covering it so completely and being so tight as to prevent the work of worms, which are so bad on the Cory. The grains are fairly deep and are set in straight rows on small white cobs. Per bushel, $2.50.

PERFECT WHITE SPINE CUCUMBER

For 15 years we have been growing and improving this variety on our seed farm, and we now believe it to be the best strain in existence. Fruit of even and good size, straight, well formed and symmetrical. When small it is deep green in color and of uniform shape, making it unexcelled for pickling. When of usual size for slicing it still holds its color, shading to light green at blossom end. As it matures it turns to a clear white, very showy for market. Immensely productive, and keeps longer solid and crisp than any other variety. We sell large quantities of this to the pickle factories throughout the country and it is greatly liked by them. As a valuable sort for the market gardener it has no peer. Per lb. 30c, per 100 lbs. $25.00. *Electro 75c, or free with orders for 25 lbs or more.*



Page's Striped Rice Pop Corn.

PAGE'S STRIPED RICE POP CORN.

This splendid variety, which is the result of a cross between the best white and red varieties of Rice pop corn, we have been at work improving for several years, until we now have undoubtedly the best, handsomest and most attractive variety of pop corn in existence. The color is a clear, translucent white, and each kernel is beautifully striped with bright crimson. The ears are of good size and well filled out; kernels are long and pointed, resembling rice. Early, very productive and extremely tender when popped, bursting out very large, white as snow and of the finest quality. Shelled, per lb. 10c, 100 lbs. $7.00. *Electro 75c, or free with orders for 100 lbs. or more.*

GARDEN LEMON.

Introduced by us, and it has been highly praised wherever tried. It resembles the Vine Peach in manner of growth, but is distinct in that the unripe fruit is striped with very dark green, and when ripe is not russeted like the Vine Peach. Fruit is of shape shown in our engraving, and is somewhat smaller than Vine Peach, has thinner flesh and is most decidedly more acid, thus dispensing with the sliced lemons which are so important in putting up the Vine Peach. Per lb. 60c, 10 lbs. or more @ 50c. *Electro 50c, or free with orders for 10 lbs. or more.*

VINE PEACH.

(Also called Mango Melon.)

A splendid novelty which we introduced in 1887. The vine on which they are borne is somewhat similar to the musk melon vine, and requires the same cultivation. The fruit is about the size of a large peach, oval shaped and of a bright orange yellow color, somewhat russeted. For sweet pickles, pies or preserving they are superb. Takes well with the retail trade and it will pay you to list it. Per lb. 60c, 10 lbs or more @ 50c. *Electro 50c, or free with orders for 10 lbs. or more.*

BOND'S EARLY MINNESOTA TOMATO.

This handsome new variety is, we verily believe the earliest in existence. It originated in Minnesota, but has been thoroughly tested elsewhere for two years with surprising results. Vines vigorous with rather small leaf. When quite small begin producing fruits which are of fair size, good shape, smooth, and of dark, purplish red color. They ripen evenly, remain solid a long time and never crack. Thos. H. Brinton, who grows about 100 varieties of tomatoes, has originated several of our best sorts, and who may be called the best posted man on tomatoes in the United States, writes us: "Bond's Early Minnesota is the best early tomato I have yet tried." Per lb. $2.50. *Electro 65c, or free with order for 5 lbs. or more.*

PERPETUAL WHITE SUMMER RADISH.

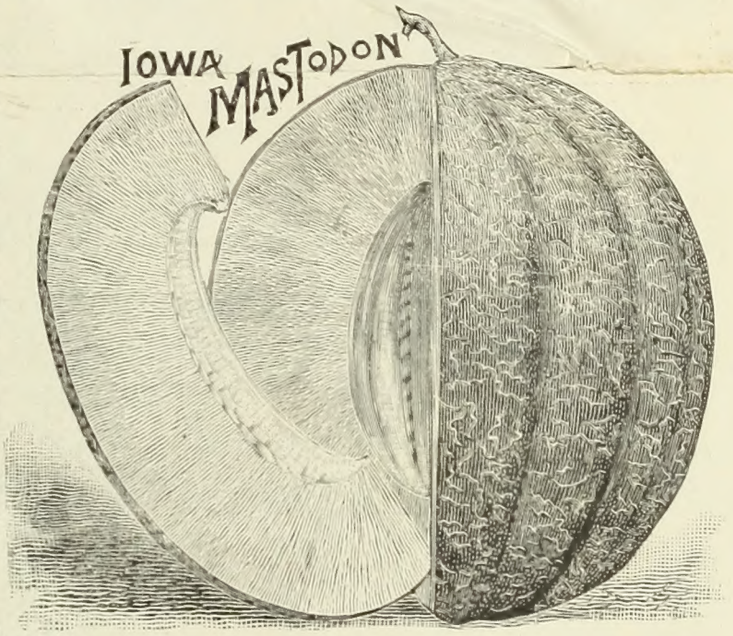
This variety, introduced by us, has given splendid satisfaction to all who tried it. They are pure white, of uniformly good quality, crisp and brittle, and they keep longer in a fit condition for the table than any variety we know of, hence their name, Perpetual White Summer. Can be sown any time of the year and will always produce good radishes fit for market as early as the Chartier, and keep in perfect shape for marketing for about four weeks, or longer for home use. Per lb. $1.00.

IOWA MASTODON MUSK MELON.

The most extraordinary new variety which has been offered for many years and will create a sensation wherever seen. It is from Japan, and just a few seeds were sent to a friend over in this country. This friend knew of our interest in novelties and brought in specimens of the melon. One weighed 23½ pounds and the other 25 pounds. We at once secured the entire crop, although but a few vines. The melons are of monstrous size, and greatly resemble the Yankee field pumpkin; so nearly in fact, as to even deceive us at first sight. The flesh is a clear creamy white, and fully 3½ inches thick and of excellent flavor. The flesh is tender and sweet up to the rind which is thin and tough. In packets only of 25 seeds each. Per 100 pkts. $4.00, per 1,000 pkts. $30.00. *Electro, $1.00, or free with order for 100 pkts. or more.*

IOWA SEED CO.'S IMPROVED GREEN NUTMEG MUSK MELON.

Everybody is delighted with our improved strain of this most excellent old kind. For twelve years we have been constantly selecting and improving the old Green Nutmeg melon until now it is one of, if not the very best variety of musk melons in existence. All lovers of fine, luscious melons will admit after giving it a trial that it cannot be surpassed in rich, delicious flavor. Fruit of a fair size, very rich, melting and of exquisite flavor. Outside dark emerald green; flesh light green; more productive than any variety we know of. Per lb. 60c, 100 lbs. $50.00.



NEW ZEALAND OATS.

A new variety which was first introduced by us in 1895. They are a side-oat with long, heavy, full head. It averages a trifle higher than other sorts, has very stiff, strong straw, never known to lodge. It has never rusted and does well on all kinds of soil. About one week later in maturing than the common round head oat, thus giving time to harvest the hay crop. Tested 40 pounds to the bushel from the machine without recleaning and gives an extraordinary large yield. They stool out remarkably well and thus require less seed to the acre. This variety yielded about 102 bushels to the acre for us this year, while other varieties in the same vicinity yielded only 40 to 50 bushels. Per bushel 75c, 100 bushels or more @ 65c.

Turkish Red.

TURKISH RED WINTER WHEAT.

Most hardy and best yielding variety we know of. Per bushel 80c, 100 bushels @ 70c. *Electro 50c, or free with order for 10 bushels or more.*

EARLY HARVEST MILLLET.

This new variety was produced by sowing the Golden Wonder and Manitoba millet together and they formed a perfect cross or so-called hybrid, the seed being different in size, shape and color from either of its parents. As early, if not earlier, than the Manitoba, the head resembling Golden Wonder, being not so long but much fuller. Fodder stays green and in excellent condition even after the seed is fully ripe, differing in this respect from any other kind. The crop from which our seed was harvested was cut just 51 days after seed was sown, thus it would be easy to raise two crops in one season on the same ground. It ripens seed before pigeon grass or any kind of barn grass and yields 60 bushels of seed to the acre. The hay is fully equal to the Golden Wonder, and is as good as any variety of millet grown. The stem is well filled with broad leaves instead of having leaves simply at the base, and makes just as good hay when cut after seed is ripe as other millets do cut green. Prof. A. A. Crozier, of the Michigan Agricultural College, tested it last season and writes us: "Your new millet is the earliest kind of millet we have out of 73 samples from various parts of the world, and I think it will also prove productive." Price, per 100 lbs. $3.00.

EGYPTIAN LENTILS.

Largely used in Oriental countries and is one of their principal articles of diet. It was from these that the dish of pottage was made for which Esau sold his birthright to Jacob in Bible times, and many will be interested in them for that reason. They are in growth similar to peas and may be used any way that you would use shell beans, and they also make an excellent soup. Sow and cultivate same as garden peas and thresh out in the fall. Sells well to catalogue trade. Per lb. 15c, 100 lbs. $12.00. *Electro 50c, or free with order for 25 pounds or more.*

Egyptian Lentils.

RED CROSS PEANUTS.

The Spanish peanuts have been sold for several years past but they have almost invariably proven unsatisfactory in the northern states. The Red Cross variety we have sold for about five years and it has proved to be a very desirable sort, as early as the earliest, very hardy, prolific, and of good quality. Per lb. 7c, 100 lbs. $5.00.

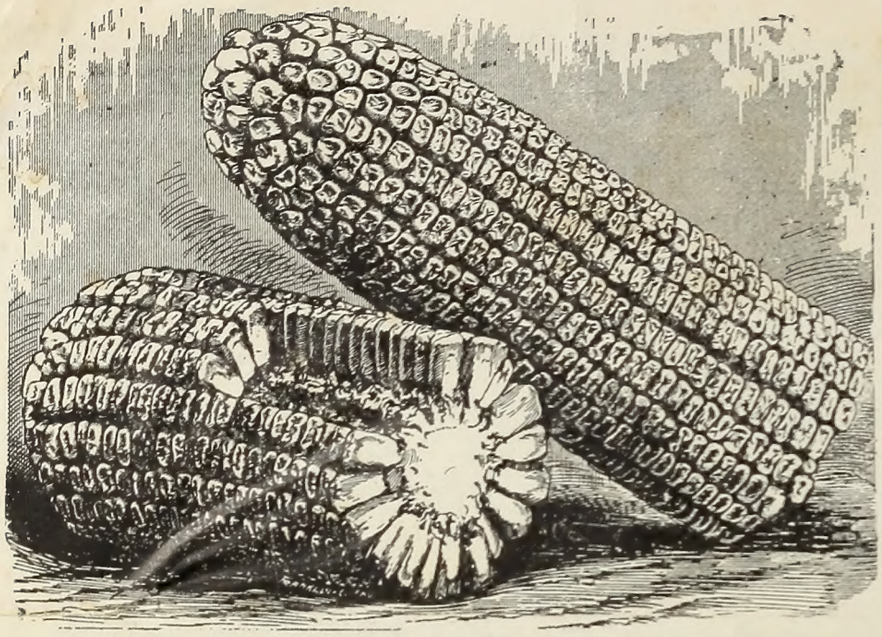
MAMMOTH RUSSIAN SUNFLOWER.

Our own growing from select seed. Ask for sample. $3.50 per 100 lbs, $30.00 per 1,000 lbs.

BROOM CORN.

New Australian	$5.00 per 100 pounds.
Japanese Evergreen	3.50 per 100 pounds.
Wilson's Improved Evergreen	2.00 per 100 pounds.
Dwarf Evergreen	3.25 per 100 pounds.
California Golden	2.50 per 100 pounds.

NOTICE is given that the name, **"Iowa Silver Mine,"** has been adopted as a name for a new variety of white field corn to be introduced by us in 1896.



Electro $1.25, or free with order for 25 bushels or more.

IOWA GOLD MINE CORN.

The Best Variety in the World.

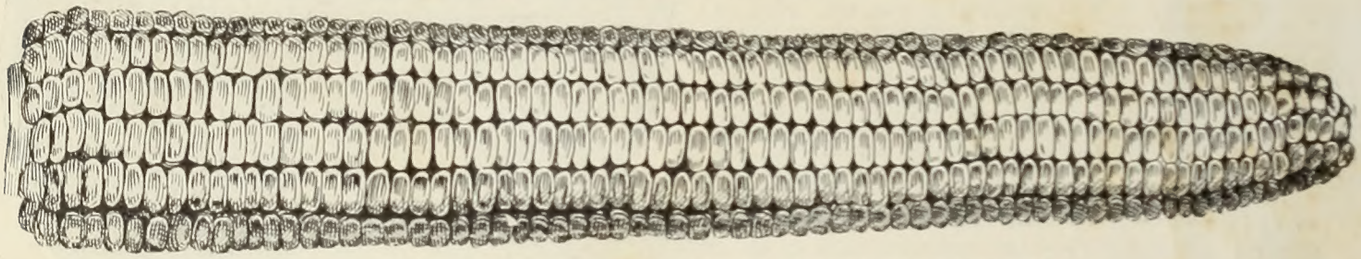
Everyone who has tried it is enthusiastic in the praise of this splendid new variety which we introduced. Iowa is not called a gold mining state, but in this grand new variety farmers of this country will find a veritable mine of wealth. It has everywhere received the most cordial endorsement as the best and most profitable variety ever grown. It is early, ripening only a few days later than the Pride of the North; ears are of good size and symmetrical; color a bright golden yellow, as handsome as a twenty dollar gold coin just from the mint; grain is very deep; cob small; and therefore dries out very quickly as soon as ripe. *Seventy pounds of ear corn makes sixty to sixty-four pounds of shelled corn*, and in hauling to market it weighs out five bushels more to the wagon load than common varieties in the same size wagon. We have shelled selected ears of this variety which produced *sixty-four pounds of shelled corn and only six pounds of cobs to the bushel.* This is an unparalleled record. It cannot be equaled by any other corn in the world. One lot of four hundred bushels of Iowa Gold Mine corn was carefully weighed, and after shelling it was reweighed and there was just 456 bushels. Just think of it—*a gain of 14 bushels to the 100!* We most highly recommend it to our customers in all parts of Iowa and other states in the same latitude. Remember if you want pure Iowa Gold Mine corn you must purchase it direct from us. Several thousand dollars have been spent in advertising this variety, and it will pay you well to list it. Per bushel, shelled, 70c, 100 bushels or more @ 60c. Special price on car load lots.

EARLY LONGFELLOW DENT CORN.

For several years one of our growers has been at work originating this new sort, the object being to obtain a variety fully as early as Pride of the North and much larger. He succeeded so well that now we take pleasure in introducing it. The accompanying engraving was accurately made from an ear of the corn and well shows its shape, which is different from any other in existence and suggested the name.

LEGAL TENDER CORN.

With the exception of our Iowa Gold Mine, we consider the Legal Tender the best variety of yellow dent corn for Iowa, Illinois, Nebraska and the south. The corn is of uniform pure yellow color, a long ear and a deep grain on a small cob. Matures with Clark's Mastodon, or three weeks later than Iowa Gold Mine. Per bushel 70c, 100 bushels or more at 60c per bushel.



Early Longfellow Dent. Electro $1.00, or free with order for 25 bushels or more.

We recommend it highly for northern Iowa and Minnesota as the best early corn ever offered. The grower who has had it for several years claims that it yields as well as any of the large sorts. Stalks of medium height, strong and not easily blown down. Ears have 12 rows and are 10 to 14 inches in length, kernels rather shallow. Per bu. 85c, 100 bushels or more @ 70c.

GLADIOLUS SEED.

This seed was saved from a field containing about 100,000 Gladiolus and only a few of the choicest spikes were marked and saved for seed. It is extra select and sure to produce the finest sorts and doubtless some good novelties. Per ounce 75c, per pound $10.00.

American Banner Larkspur.

LINCOLN OATS.

What we claim for the Lincoln is that it is a very heavy yielder, is comparatively early, has proven to be entirely rust proof, and stands up exceptionally well. On account of its soft nib, heavy meat and thin hull it is unsurpassed for feeding and for making into oatmeal. Has a record of yielding 174 bushels from one bushel sown. Our crop this year was about 90 bushels to the acre. Ask for sample. Per bushel 60c, 100 bushels @ 50c. Ask for price in large lots. *Electro 35c, larger electro 80c, or free with order for 25 bushels or more.*

AMERICAN BANNER LARKSPUR.

We consider this without exception the finest floral novelty and one of the most attractive and handsome flowers ever offered. Our illustration presents a single stem, showing how loaded the plants are with flowers. The name, "American Banner," was given it because it is the only flower we know of which combines the national colors, red, white and blue in each flower. The plants grow to a height of about two feet, of good, regular shape, with delicate fern-like foliage, a vigorous grower, and not injured by dry weather. The plants are fairly loaded with long spikes of double, striped and blotched flowers, having the various shades of pink, carmine, dark blue, purple and white, delicately and beautifully blended, sometimes four or five shades on a single floret. Flowers can be dried by hanging them with head downwards in a dark closet, and will retain theircolors and keep for winter bouquets as well as any everlasting. The most extraordinary novelty ever offered. In packets only. Per 100 pkts. $4.00, 1,000 pkts. $30.00. *Electro 75c, or free with order for 100 packets or more.*

ROYAL QUEEN GLADIOLUS.

We do not hesitate to call this by far the finest and largest flowering variety of Gladiolus ever introduced. The bulb, or corm, is usually large, producing a strong, stiff flower stalk about three feet high. The flower spike is very long and well filled out on all sides. The flowers are of a clear, pearly white ground, striped and splashed with a rich carmine, shading to a rosy purple, most beautifully blotched and marbled, and of a delicate velvety texture. It is not affected by the heat and blooms freely. The flowers measure four inches in diameter when in cup form, or six inches spread and are held upright on the spike. If you want something extra, list the Royal Queen. Per 100 bulbs $10.00.

ADDRESS ALL ORDERS TO THE IOWA SEED COMPANY, DES MOINES, IOWA.